GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4679
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2003
MALNUTRITION
BIR SING MAHATO;DUKHA BHAGAT

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of children are affected severely by malnutrition in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the target fixed and achieved in curbing/minimizing the malnutrition among the children during the Ninth Five Year Plan, State-wise;

(d) the target fixed for the purpose for the Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(e) the measures being taken by the Government to achieve the goal during the said period?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE(SHRI A. RAJA)

(a)&(b): As per National Family Health Survey(1998-99),18% of children under the age of 3 years are severely malnourished in the country. State-wise details are at Annexure.

(c)&(d): The Ninth Five Year Plan did not fix State-wise goals for minimizing malnutrition among children. The major nutrition goals during the Tenth Plan is to intensify nutrition and health education to improve infant and child feeding and caring practices so as to (a) bring down the prevalence of under-weight children under three years from the current level of 47% to 40%; and (b) to reduce prevalence of severe under-nutrition in children in the 0-6 years age group by 50%.

(e): Malnutrition is a multi-faceted problem. In this regard, the Government has, inter alia taken various steps to improve agriculture production and the purchasing power of the people through income generating schemes. It also makes available the essential food items at subsidized rates through Public Distribution system. The Government is also implementing a number of schemes like Integrated Child Development Services Scheme, National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education (Mid-Day Meal Scheme), Pradhan Mantri Grammodaya Yojana etc. for this purpose. ANNEXURE

NUTRITIONAL STATUS OF CHILDREN IN INDIA

State	Percentage of children under the age of 3 years, who are severely malnourished
India	18.0
North	
Delhi	10.1
Haryana	10.1
Himachal Pradesh	12.1
Jammu & Kashmir	8.3
Pujab	8.8
Rajasthan	20.8
Central	
Madhya Pradesh	24.3
Uttar Pradesh	21.9
East	
Bihar	25.5

Orissa	20.7
West Bengal	16.3
North East	
Arunachal Pradesh	7.8
Assam	13.3
Manipur	5.3
Meghalaya	11.3
Mizoram	5.0
Nagaland	7.4
Sikkim	4.2
West	
Goa	4.7
Gujarat	16.2
Maharashtra	17.6
South	
Andhra Pradesh	10.3
Karnataka	16.5
Kerala	4.7
Tamil Nadu	10.6